

MINUTES
Judicial Education Committee
Friday, October 22, 2010

Members Present: John Rader, Chair; Bill Hughes, Earl Penrod, Steve Heimann, Terry Harper, Susan Orth, Robyn Moberly, Mary Willis, Nancy Vaidik, Sherry Biddinger, Steve David.

Staff: Vicki Davis, Anne Jordan, Jane Seigel, Barbara Harcourt

1. Welcome and Introductions. New members Nancy Vaidik and Steve David were welcomed.
2. Minutes from the May 14 meeting were approved.
3. September Conference review:
 - a. Evaluations. Evaluations were distributed and reviewed. The Committee was pleased with the entire event, as was reflected by the evaluations. The most common complaint was over-crowding. The dedicated meals take up the largest rooms. Staff explained that we are outgrowing our usual hotels and may have to move to the Convention Center in 2 more years.
 - b. Registration. 551 judicial officers registered, 538 attended. This was the second conference in which electronic registration was offered. 341 registered online, 210 by paper. Problems: many court email systems reject IJC conference email as spam since it is sent as a mass email plus has attachments. Discussion was had on creating a secure link to the judicial center site to connect to the registration software.
 - c. Meals. 37 judicial officers reserved meals but did not turn in meal tickets. 41 judicial officers cancelled or failed to show. Two sample memos were handed out of what will be sent to these groups; and some will receive an invoice. It was agreed we would include language in the memo on the impact to the State of conferees missing meals (e.g. \$1,700.00). Earl asked if the State is required to pay for meals? In some locations, there is insufficient space outside of the hotel to accommodate 500 people during a lunch hour. Indianapolis can handle the number but staff is concerned with the impact on time and losing people.
4. Upcoming Education Programs.
 - a. Pre-Bench orientation, December 2-3; 30 South Meridian. A draft agenda was handed out. The same core programs will be offered as in the past 3 orientations.
 - b. Winter Conference, December 10; Indianapolis Marriott Hotel. "Bridges out of Poverty," a workshop conducted by Phil DeVol of Aha Process. A course description was provided.
 - c. Orientation for New Judicial Officers, January 24-28, Omni Severin. The draft agenda was handed out. For the first time, new judges will self-select break-out sessions for specialized jurisdictions, including juvenile, probate, and small claims. Most of the faculty has been confirmed. The final day includes a one hour course on Forensic Psychiatric Evaluations, suggested (requested?) by Dr.

George Parker. The committee agreed that the most important thing about evaluations for new judges to grasp are the administrative aspects. Staff agreed to re-consider whether this topic is appropriate for new judges at their orientation.

- d. Spring Judicial College, April 27-29, 2011; Hyatt Regency, downtown. A list of possible topics was handed out and briefly discussed. Topics noted with approval include: Sentencing/Sentencing Decisions (along with implementation of the risk assessment tool); judicial writing; forensic science/evidence in court; CourTools; impact of immigration law in criminal cases; SRL's and language barriers; Atticus Finch—demeanor and courtroom civility/control; benchskills program; the dark side of judging (JLAP); law and literature program; and new judicial officer program round-table discussion. Committee members were asked to forward additional ideas to the staff.
5. Special projects.
- a. Needs assessment survey. In an effort to create a core curriculum for the judiciary, the education needs of our population must be understood. Samples of 'needs assessment' surveys were distributed. All agreed to use an open-ended tool. Discussion was had on whether to survey groups that use the courts—i.e. prosecutors, public defenders, trial lawyers, and the family law section. Concern was expressed that these specialty groups will only identify their own needs that might be beyond a judges' general expertise. Another concern is that these groups will see this as a way to evaluate judicial officers. Care must be taken to focus on the education needed by the judiciary, not the strengths/weaknesses of the judge personally.
 - b. Core curriculum for judicial officers. This topic was identified by the committee in January as an area to work on -- a curriculum plan with core classes that could be delivered to judges based on their experience levels. Staff agreed to gather information from other state judicial education programs as a starting point for the committee's discussion.
 - c. Indiana Faculty Development Program. The Judicial Conference needs a greater pool of core faculty to teach at our conferences. A subcommittee of Bill Hughes, Nancy Vaidik, Earl Penrod, and IJC staff will work towards developing and institutionalizing a faculty development curriculum.
6. Impact of Rule 28 CJE
- a. Increasing hours at Spring Judicial College and Annual meeting. Due to the increased requirement for CJE as of January 1, staff agreed to have a minimum of 12 CLE hours at the annual meeting. We may also increase the hours at Spring by adding some early bird sessions or going a full day on Day 3.
 - b. It was suggested that an end of the year memo be sent to all judicial officers with a "mark your calendar" and reminding them that up to 18 hours are currently available during a calendar year.
7. "Low-budget" One Day Specialty Seminars/Workshops. Staff presented the idea of adding 1 to 3 one-day workshops in Indianapolis during the year to the overall conference schedule. These would be low-budget impact seminars with judges teaching judges. No

travel expenses reimbursed and no lunch provided. The seminars could be held in Indianapolis at 30 South Meridian or similar venues with no meeting room charges. Possible topics may include Bench Skills, Domestic Violence, Evidence, Protection Orders, Small Claims, ADR, and Recent Legislation. Discussion was had on whether these could be taken on the road on a regional basis.

8. Meeting Dates in 2011. Meetings are scheduled on the following dates in 2011 from 1:15-3:30 p.m.
 - a. Friday, January 14
 - b. Friday, March 25
 - c. Friday, May 20
 - d. Friday, October 21

Respectfully submitted:

Anne Jordan
Program Attorney